



Tips for

Grandparents *who are* Raising Grandchildren in Illinois

These simple suggestions have been developed by the Task Force on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren in Illinois to assist older adult caregivers in their efforts to provide quality care for their family's children. The Task Force can be reached through the Illinois Department on Aging's toll-free Senior HelpLine, **1-800-252-8966** (Voice and TTY).

Health Insurance (KidCare)

KidCare is a health insurance program for Illinois children 18 or younger and pregnant women. Your grandchild may be eligible for one of KidCare's five insurance plans: KidCare Assist, KidCare Share, KidCare Premium, KidCare Rebate, and KidCare Moms & Babies.

KidCare Facts

- * Children in the care of a grandparent or relative may be eligible for health insurance coverage through KidCare;
- * The income of the grandparent or relative and their spouse is not included in determining eligibility of the grandchild for KidCare;
- * The income of the grandchild, such as child support or Social Security income, is used in determining the child's eligibility for KidCare. The income a child earns from employment is not counted;
- * Most grandchildren living with grandparents will qualify for the KidCare Assist plan which covers the full range of your grandchild's health care needs including well-child visits and immunizations at no cost.
- * KidCare provides health coverage for children with no insurance as well as for children who may be covered by a private or employer-based health plan.

- * Some insured children may be eligible for KidCare Rebate. KidCare Rebate can pay the policyholder for some or all the premiums paid for the child's health insurance.
- * To apply for KidCare, fill out the KidCare application form and return it in the postage-paid envelope. KidCare staff will determine which KidCare plan your grandchild may be eligible for.
- * You may also apply for KidCare at a local clinic or community organization that serves as a KidCare Application agent (KCAA). Call the toll-free number below to find a KCAA near you.

For information or assistance in obtaining or completing the KidCare application form, call:

**1-866-4-OUR-KIDS toll free
(1-866-468-7543)
or visit our website at
www.kidcareillinois.com**

Or call the Illinois Department on Aging's Senior HelpLine at:

**1-800-252-8966
(Voice and TTY)**